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Inspection of immigrants at Ponce for the week ended February 8, 1902.

PONCE, P. R., February 10, 1902.

SIR: Through the chief quarantine officer for Porto Rico, I submit herewith report of alien steerage passengers arriving at this port during the week ended February 8, 1902. February 3, French steamship *St. Domingue*, from Fort de France and St. Thomas, with 4 immigrants. February 5, American steamship *Maracaibo*, from Maracaibo and Curaçao, with 1 immigrant. February 6, Spanish steamship *Catalina*, from Genoa and Spanish ports, with 1 immigrant. Total, 6.

Respectfully,

W. W. KING,

Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL, U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

Report of immigrants inspected at the port of Ponce, P. R., during the month of January, 1902.

Total number of immigrants inspected, 26; number passed, 26.

W. W. KING,

Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL, U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

SAN JUAN, P. R., February 10, 1902.

SIR: I herewith submit report of arrivals of alien steerage passengers at this port during the week ended February 8, 1902. February 3, steamship *St. Simon*, from Havre via St. Thomas, with 4 immigrants; steamship *Catalina*, from Malaga via Teneriffe, with 5 immigrants. Total, 9.

Respectfully,

FRED. V. MARTIN,

Commissioner.

The SURGEON-GENERAL, U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

TURKEY.

Report from Constantinople—Plague at Bagdad.

CONSTANTINOPLE, TURKEY, January 21, 1902.

SIR: I have the honor to report that public health in Constantinople is rather good. There are many cases of scarlet fever and an epidemic of influenza, but there has not been any plague case since the last one registered many weeks ago. The number of deaths registered since the beginning of the year is 540, of which 6 are from diphtheria, 13 from scarlet fever, 2 from measles, 8 from typhoid fever, and 31 from acute diseases of the lungs.

In Smyrna there has been a light case of bubonic plague, and I am glad to state that the patient is doing well. In the other provinces of the Turkish Empire the sanitary condition is satisfactory. I have the honor to forward to the State Department the conclusions to which the sanitary service of the German Empire has arrived in considering the regulations proposed by the international sanitary commission of Constantinople concerning the extermination of rats on board the ships.

Respectfully,

S. C. ZAVITZIANO,

United States Sanitary Commissioner.

The SURGEON-GENERAL, U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

CONSTANTINOPLE, TURKEY, January 23, 1902.

SIR: In my last report I have written that the sanitary condition of the Turkish provinces was good. Unhappily, that very day the sani-

tary inspector of Bagdad wired that some time since it was rumored that a suspicious disease was causing some deaths in Bagdad, but that in spite of all the steps taken it had been impossible to know anything about it. It is only on the 16th instant that 1 of the physicians of the municipality has seen a patient, a woman of the Israelitic community, being ill four days since. The disease began with chill, followed by high fever, and a pain in the right groin, in which he found a bubo. She presented constipation and anuria, unconsciousness and paralysis of the members, the pulse filiform, the tongue nearly normal. The fourth day of her illness she died. Besides this case, there were 5 others, of which 3 proved fatal. The sanitary inspector, in spite of the bubos and deaths, continues to say that there is a suspicious disease, and that the microscopical examination is necessary. Meanwhile the sanitary board has taken the usual steps of quarantine with the sanitary cordons by land, and for the fluvial navigation it has been decided that steamships must go to Grarah, a place southward from Bagdad, where they will try with sulphur and coal to exterminate the rats on board. I can not state whether there have been found rats dead in that city. At any rate, I do not suppose that it is an extraordinary thing that plague has made its appearance in Bagdad.

* * * * *

Respectfully,

S. C. ZAVITZIANO,

United States Sanitary Commissioner.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

URUGUAY.

Comments on the quarantine station at Isla de Flores.

MONTIVIDEO, URUGUAY, *December 18, 1901.*

SIR: Heretofore much adverse comment has been made upon the quarantine stations on the Atlantic coast of South America, and, perhaps, with justice. My family returned from the States December 15, and were compelled to take quarantine at the Uruguayan station at Isla de Flores, and I took occasion, on going to the island 16 miles away to meet them, to examine the station fully and closely, for all classes of passengers and it affords me great pleasure to report that the entire station is in the most excellent condition for its purpose; cleanliness marked all the rooms, completed with modern sanitary conveniences of the best type and service. The disinfection apparatus, machine and chambers, are of the same character—modern and complete, sufficient for the purpose. The food supplied was both well cooked, and in variety, ample and good; tables and service clean and inviting; servants in clean clothes, and all made inviting to the involuntary stayer. The bedding in all quarters was closely inspected, and found clean, first-class in quality for the class used—in a word, no sensible person need ever ask for more, or for better, under such conditions.

* * * In its operation the officials were found all most obliging, to all classes of passengers, and fully capable for the important task committed to them of guarding against infection from the north.

It is with much pleasure that I find myself able to thus truthfully and frankly report on this matter.

Respectfully,

ALBERT W. SWALM,

United States Consul.

HON. SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.